

Remarks

Claims 1-20 and 23-44 have been cancelled. After entry of this amendment, claims 21, 22 and 45 will be pending.

I. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 41-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,159,831 (Thrush) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,298,295 (Winter) and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0206448 (Dubrow). Claims 41-43 have been cancelled, so this rejection is moot.

Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Thrush in view of Winter, Dubrow and the admitted state of the art. Claim 20 has been cancelled, so this rejection is moot.

II. Cancelled Claims

Claims 1-20 and 23-44 were cancelled for economic reasons and to expedite prosecution without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve all rights to pursue these and similar claims in separate related applications.

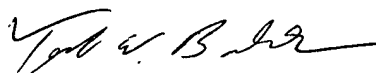
III. Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the present claims are in condition for allowance. Should there be any questions regarding this application, Examiner Turocy is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

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